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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 440542

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SKLAR et al.

Application No. 09/803,739

Filed: March 12, 2001

For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR TEST
SAMPLE PREPARATION

Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first sentence of this application as follows:

A) This application is a continuation of United States Application No. 09/622,991, which is the United States National Phase of International Application No. PCT/US99/04127, filed February 25, 1999, which claims the priority of U.S. Provisional Patent Application 60/076,286, filed February 27, 1998, which application is incorporated by reference in its entirety.